

Message Text

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ACTION DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 L-03 H-01 PM-04 NSC-05
SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 PA-01
PRS-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 /060 W
-----051235 042155 /22

O 051215Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2056

CONFIDENTIAL DAMASCUS 1486

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT TO CONGRESS

REF: STATE 46674

1. IN REVIEWING HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT ON SYRIA TO BE PRESENTED TO CONGRESS WE HAVE NOTED SEVERAL MINOR POINTS WHICH DEPARTMENT IN ITS DISCRETION MAY WISH TO NOTE BEFORE HEARING.

2. STATEMENT IN REPORT THAT JEWS ARE NO LONGER REQUIRED TO HAVE THEIR RELIGION STAMPED PROMINENTLY ON THEIR SYRIAN IDENTITY CARDS IS TRUE BUT MISLEADING IN THAT IT SUGGESTS THAT SYRIAN JEWS' RELIGION NO LONGER APPEARS ON IDENTITY CARDS. THIS IS NOT THE CASE FOR BULK OF COMMUNITY (DAMASCUS 234).

3. REPORT STATES "IN THE CASE OF JEWISH NON-RETURNEES" POSTED BONDS WOULD BE FORFEITED FOR NON-RETURN. IN FACT, THIS WOULD BE THE CASE FOR ANY NON-RETURNEE WHO HAD BEEN REQUIRED TO POST BOND.

4. OUR CONTINUING RESEARCH INTO REGULATIONS AFFECTING THE SYRIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY HAS UNCOVERED UNCERTAIN-
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TIES REGARDING WHETHER "UNMARRIED JEWISH WOMEN CAN APPLY TO MARRY DESIGNATED FOREIGNERS AND OBTAIN PASSPORTS TO JOIN THEIR FIANCES ABROAD." COMMUNITY LEADERS BELIEVE THAT MARRIAGE CEREMONY WOULD HAVE TO BE PERFORMED IN SYRIA BUT ADMIT THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO CASE AS YET TO TEST APPLICATION OF THIS REGULATION.
MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Reason:
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